



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

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NEW YORK, NY 10021

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

February 8, 1988

Dr. Fred Ikle
The Pentagon
Room 4E830
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Fred:

Over the past 3 years a Committee of the National Academy of Sciences, CISAC (Committee on International Security and Arms Control) has been meeting with a counterpart group of scientific leaders from the Soviet Academy of Sciences. During this period of time, we have succeeded in putting biological weapons control, and the enforcement of the BW Convention, on the agenda. While no one can claim any spectacular successes in that area, I think our conversations have 1) encouraged the other side to understand the necessity of being more open and 2) gotten a number of their top-level biological scientists interested in the question of managing BW from a global prospective. We have been in touch with a number of Soviet biomedical scientists who, I'm quite confident, had had no prior awareness of these activities and who, in my opinion, can have only a salutary influence in the future evolution of Soviet national policy. That influence may not be a large one to be sure.

We will be having another joint meeting in Washington in mid April. Ted Woodward who is a long time member of the Army Epidemiological Board, and a member of our committee, suggested that we hold one session at the army medical laboratories at Fort Detrick. He has I believe Colonel Hoksell's willingness to do this. I talked also to Tommy Dashiell and he expressed no objection, but felt that the matter should be passed up to you for a policy determination.

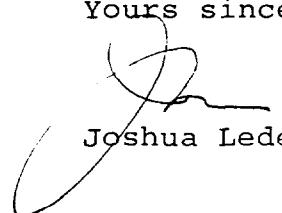
I would then like to ask your approval that we proceed accordingly. Lynn Rusten at the National Academy of Sciences (202 334-2811) is staffing our committee, and can provide any necessary details if you have in mind to handle this yourself. If you are going to delegate this, if you would please let me know to whom, I am sure that she and I will be in touch with that individual.

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I realize this is a very hectic time for you personally. I had drafted a letter to this effect about two weeks ago, but as far as I can tell it seems to have been lost before it was mailed out.

With best personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Joshua Lederberg